



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS

### Public Health AmeriCorps Mississippi Service Opportunity I

#### POSITION OVERVIEW:

**Position Name:** NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps Service Member

**Position Type/Hours:** Three Quarter Time/1200 hours

**Service Location:** Mississippi State Department of Health

Office of Community Health Improvement

715 S. Pear Orchard Rd.

Suite 100, Plaza I, Ridgeland, MS 39157

**Living Allowance:** \$7,144.00

**Education Award:** \$5,176.50

**Total Award:** \$12,320.50

#### PROGRAM PURPOSE:

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) is a national public health non-profit agency focused on improving the health of the public by strengthening state and national leadership and expertise for chronic disease prevention and control. NACDD's core membership is composed of the 59 State and Territorial Health Department Chronic Disease Directors and their staff who protect the health of the public through primary and secondary prevention efforts and work "upstream" on root causes of chronic conditions. NACDD promotes health and reduces the burden of chronic disease through various programs and initiatives in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity and the Division of Population Health, and a team of nationally recognized experts.

To enhance public health resources across the country and support state and local public health settings respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Public Health AmeriCorps (PHA) program supports the recruitment, training, and development of the next generation of public health leaders. In partnership with State Health Departments, local health departments, other community-based organizations, and/or local YMCAs or YMCA State Alliances, Service Members will be placed across twenty states to advance existing efforts around food and nutrition security, safe physical activity access, social connectedness, and health equity, all within the context of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### SPECIFIC SERVICE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The PHA Service Member will support the Office of Community Health Improvement, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, as it relates to the implementation of policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) strategies to reduce disparities related to food and nutrition security and social connectedness throughout the state. They are responsible for providing programmatic support and will report directly to the Office Director. The Service Member will assist in food and nutrition security and social connectedness initiatives at a state and community-level by working alongside the Office Director. One of the priority activities related to nutrition security will be working with division and chronic disease programs to develop new obesity state action plan strategies, and assisting food banks and food pantries throughout Mississippi to increase pantry capacity and increase snap benefit reach. A priority for social connectedness will be to engage with healthy aging staff to develop and/or expand intergenerational activities. The PHA Service Member will also:

- Participate in partner meetings to discuss food and nutrition security and social connectedness initiatives throughout the state of Mississippi.
- Plan and assist in re-engagement of Mississippians for Complete Streets committee and policy adoptions with local municipalities.
- Provide technical assistance and resources related to access to nutrition security and social connectedness to state and community-level partners.
- Establish and maintain community-level partnerships.

- Implement PSE strategies in collaboration with community partners and stakeholders.
- Provide training and technical assistance to community organizations, early care and education centers and stakeholders on PSE strategies.
- Support the development of community gardens, farmers' markets, and other food access points.
- Conduct community needs assessments to identify needs and assets related to food security and social connectedness.
- Assist Office Director with programmatic and evaluation reporting.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

- Hybrid service hours (75% onsite, 25% teleservice)
- Service hours are to be completed Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm CT time.
- A maximum of 20% of service hours may be training, education, or other similar approved activities
- A maximum of 10% of service hours may be fundraising activities

#### **DESIRED SKILLS & COMPETENCIES**

- Attention to detail
- Verbal and written communication skills
- Partnership building skills

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE**

- NACDD provides equal employment opportunities to applicants and employees without regard to race, color, national origin, gender identity, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation, marital status, parental status, reprisal, genetic information, military service, protected veteran status, pregnancy, or submission of a complaint.

#### **REQUIRED COMMITMENT**

- Service members are expected to complete 1200 service hours within a one (1) year timeframe.
  - The service year begins 09/30/2024 and ends 09/29/2025

#### **ORIENTATION AND TRAINING**

Members must participate in

- Pre-service orientation
- PHA-specific training
- Program-specific training
- Any other trainings deemed necessary by the Host Site supervisor

Note: Trainings will be limited to 20% or less of PHA Service Members service hours

#### **EVALUATION AND REPORTING**

PHA Service Members will:

- Complete quarterly assessments of the PHA Program to include their Host Site experience, trainings, sense of belongingness and inclusivity, interest in pursuing a career in public health, etc.
- Complete monthly reflection forms
- Participate in quarterly performance evaluation and reviews with their Host Site supervisor
- Be required to submit service timesheets biweekly

## PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

PHA Service Members must:

- Be at least 18 years of age at the commencement of service
- Have a high diploma or its equivalent
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States
- Satisfy the National Service Criminal History Check eligibility criteria pursuant to [45 CFR 2540.202](#)
- Live within commutable distance of the Host Site to accommodate a hybrid service schedule

## OTHER PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Required: Must be willing to comply with all Host Site vaccination requirements, including for COVID-19
- Required: Must complete all agency onboarding requirements, including HealthStream and HIPAA trainings
- Preferred: Upper level (3rd or 4th year) undergraduate student or graduate level student enrolled at a college or university pursuing a public health degree or related degree

## PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Living allowance of \$7,144.00 over the course of the term of service
- \$5,176.50 Segal Education Award at the end of a successful service term
- Student loan deferment and interest forbearance
- Increased professional awareness and accumulated real-world experience to enhance job competence following completion of service year
- Join a network of like-minded leaders who are passionate about improving communities and the health and wellbeing of community members

## HOW TO APPLY

- **Submit Your Application by 8/30/24:** Complete and submit the NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps Program Application through the following Smartsheet link:  
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/766fd3822c5942aa909458fef11dd12a>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Tierney Thomison, Public Health AmeriCorps Program Manager, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors ([tthomison@chronicdisease.org](mailto:tthomison@chronicdisease.org)) and Chelsea Cole, Public Health AmeriCorps Senior Program Coordinator ([ccole@chronicdisease.org](mailto:ccole@chronicdisease.org))
- [NACDD Public Health AmeriCorps](#)
- [National Association of Chronic Disease Directors \(NACDD\)](#)